Africa—1928
Current

# Leaves from My Notebook---XIII

BY BISHOP JAMES CANNON, JR.

[The following entry in the journal is in the form of a letter to Bishop Cannon's two sons at Emory University Academy, Oxford, Ga., and is therefore in letter style.]

*My Dear Boys:* Where is Stanley Pool? How large is it? Where does it get the name? Look it up on your map. You can get the facts from the cyclopedia in the library. You will find that it is the foot of navigation of the Upper Congo River. Between Stanley Pool and Matadi, the head of navigation of the Lower Congo, there are rocks and rapids and falls so that no boat can travel on that stretch of the river, about two hundred and fifty miles. I came from Matadi to Stanley Pool on a narrow-guage railroad with a curious-looking, mountain-climbing engine. You may not have thought that there are mountains in this hot country, but the trains from Matadi run twelve hours all day and stop for the night at Thysville, 2,800 feet above sea level, higher than the Mission Building hill at Lake Junaluska, 2,700 feet. The trains and steamers in the Congo burn wood for fuel and never run after dark, but stop for the night, load up with fuel, and start early the next morning. Sometimes it is necessary to cut wood during the night, but now there are usually "wood posts" where the wood is already cut and stacked and measured for sale.

The negroes swarm to the trains, some bringing their stuff to sell and others just to look and chatter as many people do in America. I was reminded of the sights at the train stops in Mexico; but the natives do not look as dirty, ragged, hungry, or sickly as they do in Mexico, partly perhaps because they wear fewer clothes to be ragged or to get dirty, and it is easy for them to wash themselves and their clothes—one garment, often very small, to be shed, a dip in the stream, the garment back, and the bath and the toilet are completed. The people in the lower Congo are said to dress more elaborately than the people farther back in the woods; but even here few of them are guilty of the folly of hats or shoes, so there are no milliners or shoemakers.

Here in Kinshasha the native village is very large. It is located on the south side of the town, separated entirely from White Kinshasha. It is under strict government control. It is laid off with avenues sixty or seventy feet wide, crossed at right angles with streets twenty-five to thirty feet wide. There are many mango and banana trees lining the avenues and many in the yards of the native houses. The native houses are built with stout poles for corner posts, bamboo rods bound together with withes for the sides, thatch roof made of grass or palm leaves. The floors are of clay pounded hard. There are two rooms, sometimes three, with little furniture, the beds being made of sticks or leaves, sometimes of withes woven together, making a very comfortable hammock, and sometimes there are skins thrown over the wood to soften the bed. The cooking is usually done outside the house, as it is dangerous to have a fire inside such inflammable houses, although sometimes a fire is made on the clay floor, the smoke sifting out through the chinks in the roof. Many of the houses are as good as the log houses of the negroes at home and much better than many of the adobe houses of the Mexican peons. There are two churches in the village—open sheds like the Junaluska auditorium—seating from 125 to 150. The churches need no fire, as they do in our country. They were both crowded last Sunday, and the natives sang well, like our negroes. It is contrary to the law to sell intoxicants to the natives, and the law is fairly well kept. It would be very dangerous for a crowd of natives to be filled up with the white man's firewater. They make a native wine by tapping the palm tree, as we tap the maple tree for the juice. Their wine is not intoxicating when it is fresh, but, like cider, it is very intoxicating when it is hard. But usually the natives drink it up before it gets hard, and very few get drunk.

The natives are not allowed to live in White Kinshasha, except a few boys connected with hotels or government houses. The law requires them all to be in the native village by nine o'clock. I was in the village one night when the bugle blew, and they scampered to bed or at least to their huts in great haste. After the bugle blows, the streets are patroled by the native soldiers, and very good order is maintained.

I reached here more than a week ago and found that the "Comfina" Company had engaged a long, narrow room with one window for three of us. After very urgent gesticulation and the use of very bad jargon of English and bad French, I secured a second-floor corner room with tub and shower bath, two large windows, fine bed, good mosquito net, large closet—all for the sum of 20 francs, about $1.50 per day. As I have had much work to do, it was necessary to be as quiet and comfortable as possible. I have not had but one mosquito bite yet, but they give you a busy time keeping them off when you are not under the net.

I brought with me a suit of very dark gray clothes, English-walking style, for the chief, Wembo Nyama; but after seeing the natives I have decided that he will probably want something to eat, so I have bought him a case of sardines, one hundred boxes, and three dozen tins of South African jam. He will thus have something for both the outside and the inside of his physical nature.

You know, I came with the understanding that I should visit the Mission and return by the opening of the General Conference on May 3, and I have been studying my schedule very carefully. I made a record trip from New York to Matadi in twenty-nine days; and had I not trusted to the plans of some other people, I might have saved the days I have spent here. I reached here on the evening of the 11th of January and found that no arrangemnt had been made for my passage. I took the matter at once into my own hands and engaged passage on the deck of the steamer Yser, as all its cabins were taken. I bought a camp bed and mattress and mosquito net to be ready for any emergency. It was declared that the steamer would sail Tuesday morning, and I made all my plans therefor, packing up all my things. On Monday at six word came that the Yser would sail at 2 P.M. instead of 7 A.M. I did not specially object to this, as it prevented the bustle and rush of an early morning start. When I went down to the pier after breakfast on Tuesday morning, there was no sign of the Yser; and when I asked the agent at what hour we could bring on our baggage, he languidly informed me that the Yser had not yet come up from Leopoldville and would not sail until Wednesday morning. I accepted his nonapologetic, matter-of-fact postponement with a matter-of-fact-to-be-expected air and went back to the hotel and took a good nap. Just before six in the evening a notice was posted in the hotel that the baggage need not be brought down to the steamer till noon Wednesday; that it would not leave till two in the afternoon. This did not specially delight me, as I had wound up all my affairs, packed my baggage, and was ready to go, and, moreover, the days were going by. At 6:30 yesterday (Wednesday morning) I got my breakfast and later went to the pier. The agent was cheerful and smiling, and when I asked whether the Yser would certainly sail at 2 P.M. he said quite emphatically that the Yser would come up from Leopoldville, four miles away, that day and would sail Thursday morning. This nonchalant, nonapologetic, continuous postponement was too much for me. I looked him steadily in the eyes and said with solemn but explosive emphasis: "Jamais! Jamais!" (Never! Never!) He raised his hands protestingly, lifted his eyebrows, wrinkled his scalp, shrugged his shoulders, and began to asseverate with all possible Belgian volubility the certainty of the departure of the Yser on "Jerdi" (Thursday); but, catching the glint in the corner of my eye, he grinned, then laughed, and said: "Oui, oui [yes, yes], you are on to America." They are not surprised at anything an American does.

The case really seemed hopeless. But after dinner I heard a whistle blow, and the Yser actually steamed up to the pier. I hustled all my baggage down, except my portfolio and my toilet case, and got it in my stateroom. I met Captain Foste, and he told me to be on board at ten sharp Thursday morning. I accepted this at face value, especially as a small army of blacks, soldiers and laborers, with women and children hangers-on, had appeared and were camping in the trees near by. I was much disgusted, however, to see that two barges were lashed to the Yser, one on each side, as I was sure that would reduce the speed of the steamer going upstream at least one third. The captain had told me when I engaged passage that the time to Lusambo would be fifteen days, but the double barnacle, one on each side, promises to make it twenty days. At Lusambo I go out into the bush with a caravan of negroes to carry baggage, food, bottled water, and, most important of all, myself part of the time. I shall probably walk in the morning, be "toted" in the warmer part of the day, and walk again in the evening. It is about five days to Lubefu and two days farther to Wembo Nyama, where the two mission stations are. From Wembo Nyama it is about a week crossing the Lomami and from there to the railroad, which is a part of the travel link from Stanley Falls to Capetown, nearly three thousand miles. The trains run on this railroad from Kibombo, where I expect to take train to Kongolo twice weekly; from Kongoboto Bukama a steamer runs every first and third Wednesday in the month, so that if you miss one steamer you must wait at Kongolo two weeks for the next. Then from Bukama the train runs twice weekly to Elisabethville, where you wait a day and take train for Capetown, eighteen hundred miles south, taking nearly seven days to make the trip, reaching there on Friday morning. The Union Castle steamer leaves from Capetown for London every Friday afternoon, so that if your train is very late you will have to wait in Capetown a week. You can see from this schedule why it takes so long to make the trip from Virginia to the Congo and why it is difficult to make any exact calculation as to length of time to make the trip. I have, however, made some calculations; and while I am not making any prediction publicly, I am inwardly of the opinion that I will

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carry out my program, reach the Mission, hold the Conference, and get back home by the middle of April and accomplish the declared impossible.

But since writing the above my confidence has received yet another blow. I ate breakfast this morning for the last time at the A. B. C. and paid my bill and marched with confidence in the word of the captain to the Yser. The negroes in the grove were still cooking, chattering, and yelling. I began to doubt. I reached the hill looking down on the ship. There was no steam hissing, no smoke coming from the smokestack The loading was going on as the day before. I met the captain on the deck and asked if we would leave at ten. Without the slightest apparent sense of shame he said: "You will have to get lunch on shore. Be sure and be on board by two." One would have supposed that I had been delaying the sailing and that I had requested that there be further postponement.

But I made good use of the time. I went to see the vice governor, M. Leon Bureau, and told him how important it was that I should make my connection. He was courteous and interested, as before. He said he would send a wireless to the commissioner of the Sankuru District at Lusambo and to the director of steamships at Kongolo and have a stateroom reserved for me if I could approximate the date. I dared to name Wednesday, March 1, as it was the 19th of January, and that would give me forty days. He assured me that the stateroom would be waiting for me and said that he would send messengers to all the Belgian officials along my route to give me whatever help I might need. I then sent a wireless to Brother Higgins at Lusambo telling him to have my caravan ready about the seventh and another wireless home as my last message for several weeks. I went to the post office and read the last wireless bulletin which had come in that morning and then took a rapid walk out to the native village. I was surprised to see a company of workmen with axes cutting down the trees and destroying and removing the houses. I asked a Belgian official what it meant, and he said that the land now occupied by the native village was needed for commercial and residential purposes, that it had been decided to locate the native village farther away, and that it was to be done at once. There was not as much stir about it as there would be with our negroes, for the natives themselves frequently move their villages. The material costs practically nothing, the labor is cheap, and time is of no value in the Congo. It did seem wasteful to cut down the mango and the banana trees, but they had decided to clear the ground entirely to lay it out to conform to the rest of Kinshasha. I strolled farther on into the part of the village not yet touched and watched the native life. There were no men in sight; they were working, or more likely loafing, in Kinshasha. One woman was giving her year-old baby a public bath, another was pounding cassava in a mortar to make bread for dinner, another was washing some herbs and cooking a stew. They reminded me of negro women at home, except that here in the native village when engaged in housework they wear fewer clothes than our negroes. I stopped in the yard of one woman, looked at the cooking utensils, and then with her permission looked in the house. It had three rooms and, much to my surprise, had a regular bed covered with a many-colored quilt, such as a Southern negro would delight in. I gave her two francs, and she grinned from ear to ear.

I then walked over to the Mission and went into the home of Mr. Kirkland and asked to look over his pictures that I might make some selections from which to have copies made for stereopticon views. While there they had lunch, and I partook with them. They had a potato like our sweet potato in color and in fiber and consistency, but not sweet. They also had fried plantain, which tastes like fried sweet potato, except that it has a slightly acid taste. It was a delightful social ending to Kinshasha.

I passed by the mission church as I went on back to the boat. I preached there last Sunday to the English-speaking negroes from the Gold Coast and to missionaries. I think of you boys a great deal, and especially at a service when I preach to young folk. I want you to learn both how to live and how to die, so that you may live victoriously both here and hereafter. You must have God's help to do this. Father and mother, professors and school friends can help you some, but God alone is our "refuge and our strength, a very present help in trouble," and not only in trouble but always. I am sure that you know how deeply concerned I am that you should think more of your relation to God than of any other relationship. And you do not need to wait until you are "grown-ups" to know that there is no explanation of the world about you except as God's creation and that there is no other being powerful enough to control, much less to overturn God's laws. And, remember, my dear boys, that God's laws are always on the side of righteousness. It is more important to realize that you are living and working on God's side than to have the praise of the boys with whom you associate. They are with you today and are gone to-morrow or in a few years. It will not be long before your mother and myself will have gone away out of sight to join grandpa and grandma and will be able to help you and to counsel you no longer. You must learn to know the only One who will not go away and leave you, and that is God. Try to remember as Hagar did in the desert: "Thou, God, seest me." The one hundred and thirty-ninth Psalm will give you the most beautiful and encouraging thought of God, will teach you how close he is to you all the time. I think of you often, but God thinks of you always.

Well, this is quite a long-drawn-out letter. It is the last message I shall send back home for some time. I am closing it up on the deck of the steamer. Mr. Winnie, the American engineer, is going to take it to the post office for me, and I think you should get it in thirty days—that is, by the 20th of February, by which time I hope to be holding the Conference at Wembo Nyama. They are actually blowing the whistle for "all ashore," and I will get started at last on the twenty-day journey up the river.

Lovingly,

PAPA.

STANLEY POOL, AFRICA.

## Congo Martyr to be Honored.

From the Living Age.

A tablet is to be placed in one of the wards of a London hospital in honor of the Congo chief, Mandobi, who volunteered, when sleeping sickness appeared among his tribe, to go to England and submit to all the experiments necessary to determine the cause of this malady and to discover a remedy.

For several months he permitted himself to be bled daily in order to supply material for the microscopists. At length the germ of the sleeping sickness was discovered; but almost simultaneously the volunteer subject of these researches paid for that discovery with his life.

## HELD AS PRINCE OF UGANDA.

### African Quota Exceeded, Boston Arrival Is Detained.

BOSTON, Nov. 27.—Stanley Kisingiri, 15, styling himself a Prince and saying he could have been King of Uganda in British East Africa had not the British deposed him, late today was held by immigration authorities on his arrival today from Calcutta on the City of Benares.

He said he was on his way to Tuskegee Institute, Ala. He had attended school in Colombo, Ceylon. He traveled first class and was in care of Miss Margaret N. Wilson of Chattanooga, Tenn., who had been engaged in Y. W. C. A. work in Madras.

Immigration officials said he was held because he was without a legal guardian and also because the African quota of immigrants for the year had been exceeded.

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## WHO'S WHO IN OUR PICTURES.

An interesting wedding took place at Freetown on November 23, the bride being the only daughter of the Hon. C. May, J.P., and Mrs. May, of Maysville, Ascension Town, and the bridegroom Dr. J. A. Williams, a medical practitioner in Freetown. The wedding took place at College Chapel, which was decorated for the occasion with flags and streamers lent by Messrs. Eld Dempster & Co. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. J. Brown Nichols, cousin of the bridegroom, the Rev. J. S. Wright and the Rev. J. E. Davies. The best man was Dr. E. Awunor Renner. The bride, given away by her father, wore a pretty gown of crepe de chine, embroidered with silver, and she carried a bouquet of choice flowers, the gift of Mrs. Maxwell, who also sent bouquets for the bridesmaids and button-holes for the bridegroom and the father of the bride. The chief bridesmaids were Miss Efulabi Miller and Miss Lilly Lewis, and they were dresses of fawn crepe de chine, prettily embroidered.

The Acting Governor (Dr. J. C. Maxwell, C.M.G.) and Mrs. Maxwell, accompanied by Mr. T. N. Goddard, M.B.E., A.D.C., and Mrs. Goddard, were among the early arrivals at the chapel; other guests were Mrs. Mavrogodato, the Hon. J. C. Newton, M.B.E., and Mrs. Newton, the Hon. A. J. Shorunkeh-Sawyerr, J.P., the Hon. E. H. Cummings, M.B.E., J.P., and Mrs. Cummings, Dr. Eustace Cummings, Miss Pidsley, Principal of the Annie Walshe Memorial School, and Dr. H. G. Bennett Dove. Dr. and Mrs. Maxwell and the immediate relatives of the bride and bridegroom signed the register, and, as the bride and bridegroom reappeared from the vestry, the Liberian Anthem was rendered by the choir, under the direction of Professor E. J. Greywoode, the congregation standing, in honour of the bride's father, who had been Consul of Liberia in Sierra Leone for nearly a quarter of a century. A largely attended reception was held later at Maysville.

**A New Year Dance in London.**

At the New Year dance, held at All Saints' Hall, Finchley Road, on Monday evening, by the students in London of African descent, a most enjoyable evening was spent. Dancing began early in the evening, and lasted until 11 p.m. The hall was dedorated with gaily coloured balloons and crackers, and before the function closed the capturing of the balloons caused much merriment. In the group shown elsewhere the West Africans are arranged largely on the right, and on the left are many students from the West Indies who are of African descent. The group, of course, only shows a small section of the dancers present. It includes Dr. Alcindor (centre), Mr. Ayo Williams (extreme right, front row), Messrs. S. H. Baptist, A. O. Delo Dosumu, Stanley Benajmin, H. A. Johnson, G. Dove-Edwin, R. Ade Wright, A. Abayomi, J. Caxton Martins, Aina Onabolu, Osho May, Adebiyi Desalu, T. Payne, K. Bruce-Payne, Shyngle, Barnett Wolfe, E. Bannerman, Plange, Clinton, Macaulay, Akiwunmi, Dr. and Mrs. Olaribigbe, Mr. Barbour James and Miss Barbour James, Mrs. Acham (hostess), Mrs. Pearson and the Misses Pearson, Mrs. Iles and the Misses Iles, Miss Douglas, Miss Christian, Miss Julien, Messrs. P. Acham, H. Lockhart, J. E. Agard and C. Archibald.

# LEADERS FACE UGLY CHARGE IN AFRICAN TOUR

Savannah Tribune

## Criminal Proceedings May Follow Failure to Carry Out Contract.

1/26/22

Philadelphia, Pa.—With the filing in the municipal court of the suit of Samuel H. Peters vs. Wm. H. Jones, Hugh Morgan, Henry C. Cabbas, L. G. Jordan, Richard R. Wright, Jr., Wm. H. York, Nanie H. Burroughs, John H. Frank, Wm. H. Heard, Maggie L. Walker and Richard R. Wright, Sr., there is brought to light one of the worst cases of present day reckless business transactions on the part of acknowledged leaders, and which is bringing distress and even dire want and poverty to hundreds of confiding members of the race who placed confidence in the men and women in whom they have believed in as real leaders.

The suit of Mr. Peters is only one of the many and varied attempts being made to secure relief for the many men and women of the race brought here through advertisements sent broadcast throughout the country over the names of the men and women above mentioned, appealing to those interested in the redemption of Africa to become members of an ideal winter cruise to the land of promise and the home of their forebears.

Those persuaded to prepare for the trip were assessed $495 a piece.

Most of those paying the assessment were people of the better class who were anxious to get a glimpse of Africa and the prospects of its future development.

These prospective tourists came here to sail on the S. S. Bryon, which the promoters of the scheme, trading as the American and African Tourist Company, had announced would sail, December the 10th.

With the arrival of the prospective tourists prepared to sail on the announced date, they met their first disappointment when they were informed by officials of the company that the ship was detained in New York, taking on cargo and could not sail until the 17th; when the 17th rolled around, another plausable excuse was advanced and from then until the present time excuse after excuse has been offered and the whereabouts of the ship that has now been nicknamed the phantom ship, has not been revealed.

**Can't Get Their Money Back**

In addition to the suit entered by Mr. Peters, many other suits have been started both here and in New York by those who have parted with their good money and are now anxious to get it back.

Mrs. FannieR.Givens and Dr. Lucy Porter of Louisville, Ky., who jointly paid ninehundred and ninety dollars to the company for passage to Africa have retained Attorney John C. Asbury to prosecute their claim against the promoters to whom they paid their money.

The pieces of paper for which Mrs. Givens and Mrs. Porter paid nine hundred dollars call for one continuous passage from the United States to Africa on the S. S. Bryon, and are designated as tickets Nos. 15 and 16.

Mrs. Givens, who with Mrs. Porter, is temporarily located at 1701 S 19th street, in reciting her experience while endeavoring to get her money returned to her said: "That after being informed that nine men had bought the ship while being in dry dock, and this had entirely upset the plan of sailing. She was then offered one hundred dollars together with notes for the payment of the balance of her money if she and Mrs. Porter would return to their homes. Next she was offered four hundred and fifty dollars. All of these she refused, finally telling the official that she wanted all her money or the trip to Africa.

Major York, an official of the company, then gave her a check on the Citizens and Southern Bank, 19th and South streets, covering the entire amoun due her and Mrs. Porter. The bank according to Mrs. Givens, refused to honor the check, claiming that the money was not drawable by order of Mr. York, but by Mr. Wright, Jr., only. Mr. Wright, Sr., then informed her that the check would not be honored and that his son had no connection with the steamship company. Even though his name did appear on its printed matter as treasurer.

Major York was again appealed to and told Mrs. Givens that he had gone to the end of his rope and could go no further in aiding her.

As a last resort, Mrs. Givens says she has sought the protection of the law through her counselor, Mr. Asbury."

The prominence of the men connected with this latest failure to carry out a business proposition for which thousands of dollars have been collected from confiding members of the race, has cast a perplexing shadow over the business of legitimate colored enterprises.—Philadelphia Tribune.

## LIBERIAN LOAN IS NEARER.

New York Times
1/27/22

**Draft of Agreement for $5,000,000 Credit Is Approved.**

*Special to The New York Times.*

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Liberia has signified its satisfaction with the draft of the agreement by which it is desired to negotiate a loan of $5,000,000 with the United States Government. The draft must receive the sanction of Congress before it can be concluded. This was made clear to the President of Liberia during his recent visit to America.

It was intimated at the State Department today that the United States feels itself under somewhat of a moral obligation to conclude this loan, a result of the agreement made by this country during the war for a $5,000,000 credit to Liberia, only about $35,000 of which was actually advanced.

## LIBERIA NEEDS HELP

Montgomery Advertiser
1/28/22

Liberia, notwithstanding the fact that it represents one of the most interesting social experiments of modern times, has escaped the interest and study of the world. The experiment was notable because it meant the establishment of a government of negroes for negroes by negroes.

It has been in operation for over half a century: It began with the voluntary expatriation of a number of former slaves to a section of the western coast, specifically set aside for them as a government of negroes. Several thousand American negroes from America have gone to Liberia. Many according to a recent writer, have returned.

Liberia, this same writer says, has a strong fight to make to stop the encroachments of barbarism from the interior. It is not altogether a successful fight. Even the few towns show a disposition to lapse back into the disorderly and unkempt ways of African villages. Liberia has received friendly sympathy and support from America, both from the Government and from philanthropists, in truth Liberia has always been a sort of ward of America.

Liberia has arisen from the neglect of the public into notice by a cable from the United States Minister, Joseph J. Johnson, at Monrovia, which stirred a laugh in official

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circles in Washington. The cable in effect said, "Please rush a warship to Liberia, with carpenters and lumber to repair the floor of the State house. At a cabinet meeting one of the officers of the government sitting in a chair fell through a hole in the floor into the cellar."

The Government gravely decided that the exigencies of the situation did not demand a war vessel loaded with carpenters and lumber. Minister Johnson was directed to employ some native carpenters and put them to work. The cablegram throws an interesting light on the success of the experiment in Liberia. That experiment has had ample time to demonstrate the soundness of the idea back of it. In a day when people the world over are clamoring for a greater measure of self-government and seeking to make the world safe for democracy, a self-governing republic begs the United States Government to send over a warship to repair a hole in the floor of the government house.

# THE BELGIAN CONGO.

## OUR BRUSSELS LETTER.

(African World
1/14/22
London, England

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

January 10, 1922.

### At the Compagnie Belge Maritime Du Congo.

Having satisfactorily run her trials, both in the Scheldt and in the North Sea, the "Elisabethville," the new 8,178 tons twin-screw mail liner of the C.B.M.C. (a fine production of the Cockerill yards at Hoboken-Antwerp), will sail from Antwerp on her maiden trip on Thursday, February 2, being due at Matadi on Wednesday, February 22, after the usual calls at La Pallice, Teneriffe, Dakar, Conakry, Grand Bassam (if sufficient inducement), and Boma.

Commencing with the sailing of the twin-screw mail liner "Albertville" (7,500 tons) from Antwerp on Thursday next, the 12th inst., the C.B.M.C. is reinaugurating its every three weeks' passanger and mail service from Antwerp to the Congo.

If from Antwerp Thursday is the sailing day, from Matadi Monday will it be, and this from the 13th proximo, when the "Albertville" will sail back to Antwerp.

With the sailing of its first steamer from the Congo this year, the C.B.M.C. is reducing the rubber freight from 300 to 100 fr. per 1,000 kilogrammes. The tariff will remain in force till June next. This excellent decision is the result of the repeated efforts of the Brussels Association des Interets Coloniaux Belges, of which Mr. Arthur Bolle is the active and competent chairman.

### At the Congo Railway Company (Matadi-Leopoldville).

In its financial year ended on June 30 last, the Congo Railway Company carried 2,852 first-class passengers (2,609 in the previous financial year), 14,843 second-class passengers (17,767), 115,679 third-class passengers (134,816), 686,330 kilogrammes of luggage (533,580), 45,023,128 kilogrammes of inwards goods (28,956,080), 70,136,740 kilogrammes of outwards goods (83,600,160), 23,937,053 kilogrammes in the local traffic (no figures were issued for the previous financial year).

If the year ended on June 30, 1920, closed with a loss of 2,700,271 fr., the year ended on June 30, 1921, not only recovered this loss, but closed with a net profit of 360,573 fr. In its report, the Congo Railway Company does, however, point out that this net profit did not result from the working of the line, but from outside sources. Indeed, the excess of the working receipts over the expenses was insufficient to balance the loss of the previous financial years.

At the time being, all the African produce (gold and ivory being excepted) is carried by the Congo Railway Company at 15 centimes per ton and per kilometer.

### The Kassai Diamonds.

Last year the Forminière, the first of the companies working the Kassai diamonds fields (diamonds fields discovered by a Belgian prospector, Mr. Janot) produced 160,000 carats (against 210,000 in 1920). On account of the acute crisis in the diamond trade the Forminière voluntarily reduced its output and concentrated its activity in prospecting, developing, and working diamond fields, on account of other companies settled in the Kassai basin.

Last year the Forminière improved its mining plant considerably. In the first ten months of the year the Minière du B.C.K., the second of the companies working the Kassai diamond fields, produced some 13,000 carats. (The Minière du B.C.K. started the working of its mines in June, 1920.)

A Royal Decree, dated November 25, and reprinted in the "Buletin Officiel du Congo Belge" of December 15 last, grants to the Minière du Kassai (the third of the companies working the Kassai diamond fields, and an offspring of the Kassai Company) the right to work the twenty diamond fields it discovered in the Kassai basin.

The report of the Geomine (which is interested in the Consortium du Kassai, a prospecting syndicate for which the Forminière as as contractor), states that after eighteen months of prospecting south of the 5th parallel south, interesting indications of diamonds in some zones have been secured. Thus the syndicate will ask the exclusive right to prospect in these zones.

### The Union Miniere Copper.

Last year the Union Minière produced 30,455 tons of copper, against 18,897½ tons in 1920.

The last year's output is the biggest one on record, the largest previous one being 27,462 tons in 1917.

### The Simkat Copper Mine at Kapulo.

I hear that a gratifying report has just been received by Simkat concerning its Kapulo copper mine.

This mine is not only rich in tonnage, but also in yield.

This is the sum-up of the report sent by the expert mission, which has spent a considerable time in investigating the value of this mine.

Kapulo is a place on the Luvua River at 30 kilometers from Lake Mwero.

At the time being Kapulo is not easily reached, but same could be said some years ago of any place in Katanga now reached by rail.

### Big Cement Works in the Katanga.

To-morrow, at 11 a.m., will be formed here the Société des Ciments du Katanga, which is to build cement works at Lubudi, where are the Simkat limestone fields, the largest in the world. Lubudi is on the Katanga Railway, near the Sankishia-Luena coalfields, belonging partly to the Simkat, and near waterfalls.

The annual output of these works will reach 15,000 tons.

The capital of the new company is ten million francs, represented exclusively by capital shares of 500 fr. It has been subscribed by the Simkat, the Belgo-Katanga, the Banque d'Outremer, the Société Générale de Belgique, Baron Lambert, Mr. Philipson, the Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas, Messrs. Declerq and Mahillon, the Katanga Co., the Campagnie du Congo pour le Commerce et l'Industrie, and the Ciments de Visé.

For its contribution to the assets Simkat gets two million francs.

### Radium in the Katanga.

From a report by Mr. Henri Buttgenbach to the Société Géologique de Belgique, the Luwiswishi (Union Minière) uranium ore yield about 192 milligrammes of radium—an extremely rich yield.

From a statement of Professor Schoep, of the Ghent University, to the Antwerp "Neptune," the Chinkolobwe ores (Union Minière, too) should be even richer.

The "Echo de la Bourse" (Brussels) states that important quantities of these ores have been ascertained at both Luwiswishi and Chinkolobwe.

It is for these reasons that the Union Minière and the Société Metallurgique de Hoboken (in which the Union Minière owns an interest of five millions on the twenty-five forming the company's capital) have jointly decided to build at Hoboken-Antwerp works that will produce radium. As stated by Mr. Jadot at the Union Minière meeting, these works will be in working order towards the beginning of the second half of the current year.

J. ROUSSEAU.

# MANY ARE KILLED BY RAND STRIKERS

3/11/22
Atlanta Ga. Constitution

Johannesburg, Union of South Africa, March 10.—(By the Associated Press.)—Bold moves by the striking miners accompanied by fierce fighting between strikers and police made the day one of terror in the Rand. Martial law eventually was proclaimed.

Manager Brodigan, of the Brakpan mine, the center of much of the day's fighting, and two special constables were captured and taken out on the Veldt and shot. Seven special constables, protecting the mine, were killed The strikers also captured 27 policemen at Newlands, west of Johannesburg, where spirited fighting occurred, threatening to shoot them all if other police came to the rescue. At Fordsburg one man of a command or force of burghers was killed and 13 members of the command and four policeman were wounded. The sound of artillery firing at Fordsburg was audible here.

With the proclamation of martial law and the seizure of the strikers' headquarters, where all documents were confiscated, the populace felt a sense of relief. The ministers of justice and defense have issued a statement denying reports of a contemplated native rising in the Rand. They assert there is no disposition on the part of the natives to give trouble. Meanwhile military units are enrolling with remarkable speed and a citizens' protection league is being formed to run public services.

New York Times

JOHANNESBURG, Union of South Africa, March 9 (Associated Press).—The Government, determined to end the present situation created by the gold miners' strike, today mobilized artillery, imperial light horse and other units to reinforce the police here. The public also was warned that airplanes would use machine guns if necessary.

At Germantown last night a band of raiders marched into the Primrose mine and intimidated the workers. A fight ensued, in which two natives were kiled and the manager of the mine, with several others, including police, were wounded.

Natives, armed with various kinds of weapons, yesterday took a hand in the strike situation when they dispersed a band of extremists who previously had threatened and defied the police, as well as exploding large firecrackers around the new law courts.

The appearance of armed natives was apparently a sequel to earlier firing upon natives attributed to the worst-dispositioned classes of the strikers or sympathizers. The firing on inoffensive colored men has been strongly condemned on all sides and the strikers' executive body has given definite orders against any such action.

# TROOPS TO PUT DOWN SOUTH AFRICAN RIOTS

3/10/22

*Armed Bands of Natives Turn Out to Fight Strikers Who Attacked Them.*

# 27 AFRICAN CHIEFS ON A VISIT TO PARIS

New York Times

*Each of Picturesque Group of Sovereigns of French Colonies Has Two to Five Wives.*

7-10-22

PARIS, July 9.—Twenty-seven African chiefs, the sovereigns of various French colonies or protectorates in the Sudan, Senegal, Dahomey, Mauretania and the Ivory and Guinea Coasts, arrived in Paris today. The [redacted] black men were dressed in multi-[redacted] silk gala costumes. Some of [redacted] rried immense spears, and all wo[redacted]ds. Many of them had been de[redacted] with the insignia of officers of the Knights of the Legion of Honor for distinguished services on behalf of France during the war.

The chiefs presented a picturesque appearance as they faced batteries of photographers at the Gare de Lyons. Chiefs Baloum Naba, conqueror of Togoland, and Adadji Abdoukane of Senegal, who were active in the enlistment of their followers and in the preparations for fitting them out for service in the European war, were most prominent. The chieftains were accompanied by their wives, each having from two to five. All of the men were more than six feet tall, muscular and fine specimens of manhood, especially the younger among them, any of whom seemingly would be qualified pugilistically to become a "black hope." The chiefs ranged from aged white-haired men to youths in their early twenties.

# CAN'T LEAVE FOR LIBERIA—RAILROAD ON STRIKE

Nashville Globe
8-18-22

Los Angeles, Aug. 16—The railroad strike has prevented departure from Los Angeles to Liberia of the motorship Angel, which was scheduled to sail yesterday under the leadership of the Rev. J. E. Lewis, Negro missionary, with 100 members of his race who have started a back to Africa movement.

Rev. Lewis issued a statement explaining the failure of the ship to sail, stating its departure was held up pending the arrival here of 53 Negroes of the East and South, who had booked passage.

The Angel, termed the flagship of the Liberian Transportation Steamship Company and Church of God line, is haid to be the only vessel flying the Liberian flag.

Africa—1922.
Current.

Back to Africa Movement.

# The Amazons Carried Flint Muskets to Keep Foes From Palace

Chicago Sunday
9/30/22

DAHOMEY, a country of West Africa, formerly an independent kingdom, now a French colony. Dahomey is bounded on the south by the Gulf of Guinea, east by Nigeria (British), north and northwest by the French possessions on the middle Niger and west by the German colony of Togoland. With a coastline of only 75 miles, the area of the colony is about 40,000 square miles and the population over 1,000,000.

### Inhabitants

The inhabitants of the coast region are of pure Negro stock. The Dahomeyans (Dahomi), who inhabit the central part of the colony, form one of 18 closely allied clans occupying the country between the Volta and Porto Novo, and from their common tongue known as the Ewe-speaking tribes. In their own tongue Dahomeyans are called Fon or Fawin. They are tall and well-formed, proud, reserved in demeanor, polite in their intercourse with strangers, warlike and keen traders.

The Mina, who occupy the district of the Popos, are noted for their skill as surfmen, which has gained for them the title of the Krumen of Dahomey. Porto Novo is inhabited by a tribe called Nago, which has an admixture of Yoruba blood and speaks a Yoruba dialect. The Nago are a peaceful tribe and even keener traders than the Dahomi. In Whydahz and other coast towns are many mulattos, speaking Portuguese and bearing high-sounding Portuguese names. In the north the inhabitants—Mahi, Bariba, Gurmai—are also of Negro stock, but scarcely so civilized as the coast tribes. Settled among them are communities of Fula and Hausas. There are many converts to Islam in the northern districts, but the Mahi and Dahomeyans proper are nearly all fetish worshipers.

### The Chief Town

The chief port and the seat of government is Kotonu, the starting point of a railway to the Niger. An iron pier, which extends well beyond the surf, affords facilities for shipping. Kotonu was originally a small village which served as the seaport of Porto Novo and was burned to the ground in 1890. It has consequently the advantage of being a town laid out by Europeans on a definite plan. Situated on the beach, between the sea and the lagoon of Porto Novo, the soil consists of heavy sand. Good hard roads have been made.

Porto Novo, with a population of 50,000, the former French headquarters and chief business center, is on the northern side of the lagoon of the same name and 20 miles northeast of Kotonu by water. The town has had many names, and that by which it is known to Europeans was given by the Portuguese in the 17th century. It contains numerous churches and mosques, public buildings and merchant's residences.

### Agriculture and Trade

The agriculture, trade and commerce of Dahomey proper are essentially different from that of the hinteraind (Haut Dahome). The soil of Dahomey proper is naturally fertile and is capable of being highly cultivated. It consists of a rich clay of a deep red color. Finely powdered quartz and yellow mica are met with, denoting the deposit of disintegrated granite from the interior. The principal product is palm oil, which is made in large quantities throughout the country.

The district of Toffo is particularly noted for its oil palm orchards. Palm wine is also made, but the manufacture is discouraged as the process destroys the tree. Next to palm oil the principal vegetable products are mazie, guinea corn, cassava, yams, sweet potatoes, plantains, coconuts, oranges, limes and the African apple, which grows almost wild. The country also produces ground nuts, kola nuts, pineapples, oranges, limes, guavas, spices of all kinds, ginger, okras, sugar cane, onions, tomatoes and papaws. Plantations of rubber trees and vines have been made. Cattle, sheep, goats and fowls are scarce. There is a large fishing industry in the lagoons.

Round the villages, and here and there in the forest, clearings are met with, cultivated in places, but agriculture is in a backward condition. In the grassy uplands of the interior cattle and horses thrive and cotton of a fairly good quality is grown by the inhabitants for their own use. The prapsperity of the country depends chiefly on the export of palm oil and palm kernels. Copra, kola nuts, rubber and dried fish are also exported, the fish going to Lagos. The adulteration of the palm kernels by the natives, which became a serious menace to trade, was partially checked by measures taken to ensure the inspection of the kernels before shipment. Trade is mainly with Germany and Great Britain, a large proportion of the cargo passing through the British port of Lagos. Only 25 per cent of the commerce is with France. Cotton goods, chiefly from Great Britain; machinery, metals and alcohol, from Germany, and tobacco are the chief imports.

The colony is administered by a lieutenant-governor, assisted by a council composed of official and unofficial members. The colony is divided into territories annexed, territories protected and "territories of political action," but for administrative purposes the division is into "circles" or provinces. Over each circle is an administrator with extensive powers. Except in the annexed territories the native states are maintained under French supervision and native laws and customs, as far as possible, are retained. Natives, however, may place themselves under the jurisdiction of the French law. Such natives are known as "Assimiles." In general the administrative system is the same as that for all the colonies of French West Africa. The chief source of revenue is the customs, while the capitation tax contributes most to the local budget.

### History

The kingdom of Dahomey, like those of Benin and Ashanti, is an instance of a purely Negro and pagan state, endowed with a highly organized government and possessing a certain amount of indigenous civilization and culture. Its history begins about the commencement of the 17th century. At that period the country now known as Dahomey was included in the extensive kingdom of Allada or Ardrah, of which the capital was the present town of Allada, on the road from Whydah to Abomey. Allada became dismembered on the death of a reigning sovereign and three separate kingdoms were constituted under his three sons.

One state was formed by one brother round the old capital of Allada and retained the name of Allada or Ardrah; another brother migrated to the east and formed a state known under the name of Porto Novo, while the third brother, Takudonu, traveled northwards, and after some vicissitudes established the kingdom of Dahomey. The word Dahomey means "In Danh's belly," and is explained by the following legend which, savs Sir Richard Burton, "is known to everybody in the kingdom."

Takudonu wearied Danh by perpetual demand for land and the chief one day exclaimed in anger "Soon thou wilt build in my belly." So it came to pass. Takudonu slew Danh and over his grave built himself a palace which was called Dahomey, a name thenceforth adopted by the new king's followers. About 1724-28 Dahomey, having become a powerful state, invaded and conquered successively Allada and Whydah. The Whydahs made several attempts to recover their freedom, but without success; while on the other hand the Dahomeyans failed in all their expeditions against Grand Popo, a town founded by refugee Whydahs on a lagoon to the west. It is related that the repulses they met with in that quarter led to the order that no Dahomeyan warrior was to enter a canoe. Porto Novo at the beginning of the 19th century became tributary to Dahomey.

Such was the state of affairs at the accession of King Gezo about the year 1818. This monarch, who reigned 40 years, raised the power of Dahomey to its highest pitch, extending greatly the border of his kingdom to the north. He boasted of having first organized the Amazons, a force of women to whom he attributed his success. The Amazons, however, were state soldiery long before Gezo's reign, and what that monarch really did was to reorganize and strengthen the force.

The training of women as soldiers was the most singular Dahomeyan institution. About one-fourth of the whole female population were said to be "married to the fetich," many even before their birth, and the remainder were entirely at the disposal of the king. The most favored were selected as his own wives or enlisted into the regiments of Amazons, and then the chief men were literally supplied. Of the female captives the most promising were drafted into the ranks as soldiers and the rest became Amazonian camp followers and slaves in the royal households. These female levies formed the flower of the Dahomeyan army. They were marshaled in regiments, each with its distinctie uniform and badges, and they took the post of honor in all battle. Their number has been variously stated. Sir R. F. Burton, in 1862, who saw the army marching out of Kana on an expedition, computed the whole force of female troops at 2,500, of whom one-third were unarmed or only half armed. Their weapons were blunderbusses, flint muskets and bows and arrows.

A later writer estimated the number of Amazons at 1,000, and the male soldiers at 10,000. The system of warfare was one of surprise. The army marched out and when within a few days' journey of the town to be attacked silence was enjoined and no fires permitted. The regular highways were avoided and the advance was by a road specially cut through the bush. The town was surrounded at night and just before daybreak a rush was made and every soul captured if possible; none were killed except in self defense, as the first object was to capture, not to kill. The season usually selected for expeditions was from January to March, or immediately after the annual "customs." The Amazons were carefully trained, and the king was in the habit of holding "autumn maneuvers" for the benefit of foreigners.

Many Europeans have witnessed a mimic assault and agree in ascribing a marvelous power of endurance to the women. Lines of thorny acacia were piled up one behind the other to represent defenses, and at a given signal the Amazons, barefooted and without any special protection, charged and disappeared from sight. Presently they emerged within the lines torn and bleeding, but apparently insensible to pain, and the parade closed with a march past, each warrior leading a pretended captive bound with a rope.

### The "Customs"

Dahomey "customs" gave the country an infamous notoriety. The "customs" appear to date from the middle of the 17th century, and were of two kinds; the grand customs performed on the death of a king, and the minor customs, held twice a year. The horrors of these saturnalia of bloodshed were attributable not to a love of cruelty but to filial piety. Upon the death of a king human victims were sacrificed at his grave to supply him with wives, attendants, etc., in the spirit world.

The grand customs surpassed the annual rites in splendor and bloodshed. At those held in 1791, during January, February and March, it is stated that no fewer than 500 men, women and children were put to death. The minor customs were first heard of in Europe in the early years of the 18th century. They formed continuations of the grand customs and "periodically supplied the departed monarch with fresh attendants in the shadowy world." The actual slaughter was preluded by dancing, feasting, speechmaking and elabo-

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

rate ceremonial. The victims, chiefly prisoners of war, were dressed in calico shirts decorated around the neck and down the sleeves with red bindings, and with a crimson patch on the left breast, and wore long white nightcaps with spirals of blue ribbons sewed on. Some of them, tied in baskets, were at one stage of the proceedings taken to the top of a high platform, together with an alligator, a cat and a hawk in similar baskets, and paraded on the heads of the Amazons.

**Victims Butchered**

The king then made a speech explaining that the victims were sent to testify to his greatness in spiritland, the men and the animals each to their kind. They were then hurled down into the middle of a surging crowd of natives and butchered. At another stage of the festival human sacrifices were offered at the shrine of the king's ancestors, and the blood was sprinkled on their graves. This was known as "evil night," the king going in procession with his wives and officials, and himself executing the doomed.

These semi-public massacres formed only a part of the slaughter, for many women, eunuchs and others within the palace were done to death privately. The skulls were used to adorn the palace walls, and the king's sleeping chamber was paved with the heads of his enemies. The skulls of the conquered kings were turned into royal drinking cups, their conversion to this use being esteemed an honor. Sir Richard Burton insists that the horrors of these rites were greatly exaggerated. For instance, the story that the king floated a canoe in a tank of human blood was, he writes, quite untrue. He denies, too, that the victims were tortured, and affirms that, on the contrary, they were treated humanely, and in many cases even acquisced in their fate. It seems that cannibalism was a sequel of the customs, the bodies of the slaughtered being roasted and devoured smoking hot. On the death of the king the wives, after the most extravagant demonstrations of grief, broke and destroyed everything within their reach, and attacked and murdered each other, the uproar continuing until order was restored by the new sovereign.

# Some Monster Diamonds

SAN FRAN CAL IN OF COM
SEPTEMBER 17, 1922

UP TO date twenty-five diamonds have been found in South Africa that weighed over 100 carats, and nine of these were big enough to yield cut gems of over 100 carats weight.

The first of them, known as the Star of South Africa, weighed 288 carats, and was cut to 135 carats. It was found in 1867 by a trader named O'Reilly in Griqualand West. He was staying overnight with a Boer named Van Newkirk, whose little girl was playing with a large and very bright pebble. The Boer gave it to O'Reilly, who sold it to Sir Philip Wodehouse, governor of the colony, for $1000. It was afterwards bought for $55,000 by the Earl of Dudley.

The Imperial, found at the Cape diggings in 1884, weighed 457 carats, and was for a while the largest diamond ever known in the world. It was priced at $1,000,000, and, cut to a "brilliant," became the property of the British crown.

It was altogether dwarfed, however, by the Jagersfontein diamond—otherwise known as the Excelsior—which in June, 1893, was picked up by a negro workman at Jagersfontein, in the Orange River Colony. The stone weighted 970 carats, or more than seven ounces.

It was two and a half inches long, bluish white, and irregular in shape like the broken-off end of an icicle. In the center of it was a black spot, to get rid of which it had to be cut in halves. From one half was cut the Jubilee, 239 carats, at that time the biggest cut diamond in existence, and unequaled in faultless perfection of color, luster, and water. It was given to Queen Victoria on the fiftieth anniversary of her coronation.

The other half was cut into ten pieces, the three largest of which weighed respectively 158, 147 and 130 carats. Taken by themselves, they were among the most superb diamond crystals ever seen. They were cut to a "pear," a "drop" and a marquise," all absolutely perfect.

But the huge Excelsior was in its turn dwarfed by the Cullinan, found four years later at the Premier mine, in the Transvaal. It weighed 3254 carats, or a little over one and a third pounds avoirdupois. From it were cut a number of magnificent diamonds, principal of which was a "drop brilliant" of 516½ carats, two and three-tenths inches long and one and eight-tenths inches broad, valued at $5,000,000. It was presented to King Edward VII.

The Cullinan—largest diamond crystal ever found

# EMMETT SCOTT SAYS HE HAS NO CONTRACT WITH LIBERIAN GOV'T

Pittsburgh American
Ex 12/4/22

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 1.—Dr. Emmett J. Ccott, Secretary-Treasurer of Howard Universary, has sent a vigorous letter to Senator Charles Curtis of Kansas, denying the recent charges of Senator Pat Harrison on the floor of the Senate that he was one of a group of Negro Politicians, that would benefit financially by the passage of the Librarian Loan Bill. Mr. Scott asks that his reply be inserted in the Congressional record. Dr. Scott says in part:

Hon. Charles Curtis,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Curtis:

"On the floor of the United States Senate, Friday, November 224th, the Junior Senator from Mississippi, Mr. Pat Harrison, in the course of his remarks opposing the passage of the Liberian Loan Bill, said, 'It is pretty generally understood, I think, that certain persons have a contract with the Government of Liberia that in the event this Loan is made they are to receive a fee, or commission, of $650,000. It is not a secret that the five persons who have this contract with the Government of Liberia are members of the colored race. They have been very conspicuous around the corridors of the Capitol, button-holing Senators and using every influence in order to obtain the passage of this legislation.'

In the further course of the eSnator's statement naming the five persons, he mentioned my name as one of the 'five persons' who are to receive a fee, or commission, from the Liberian Government in case the Liberian Loan Bill is passed.

No matter by whom inspired, no matter through whom the information reached the Senator, I wish most emphatically to deny the truthfulness of these charges.

I have no claim against the Liberian Government.

I have no contract of any kind or character whatsoever with the Liberian Government, or with any agent or official of the Liberian Govern-

I am to receive no fee of any character from the Liberian Government

I have 'buttonholed' no Senator, nor have I sought to influence any Senator to secure the passage of this legislation."

# SAYS AFRICA FLOWS WITH MILK AND HONEY

Commercial Appeal
Returned Traveler Calls Country World's Treasure House.
11-19-22

NEW YORK, Nov. 18.—Africa as the continent of great misunderstandings, rather than the dark continent, and as a land flowing with milk and honey instead of the last frontier for romanticists athirst for wild thrills, is the theme of a report published to day by the Phelps-Stokes fund for an international commission, which has just returned from a ten months' investigation.

The immense and varied physical resources of Africa are virtually unknown to civilization, says Dr. Thomas Jesse Jones, author of the report, because previous researches were made for private or governmental use, and the results were not published. He regrets that the popular conception of Africa was derived from journalistic accounts.

He found evidence to convince the most skeptical that Africa is the "undeveloped treasure house of the world,' with every colony possessing precious metals in commercial quantities and possibilities in agriculture, animal husbandry and water-power that scarcely have been touched.

Four general misconceptions are limiting investment of capital in African industry and agriculture; hampering the efforts of colonial governments, and discouraging the support of missions, Dr. Jones continues. The first concerns natural resources and scenery, the second the health conditions of the continent, the third the improvability of the people, and the fourth the European and American influences.

"The most unfortunate and unfair of all the misunderstandings is, that the African people do not give promise of development sufficient to warrant efforts in their behalf," Dr. Jones reports, adding that the contrary is shown "by their response to the missions, governments and commercial organizations.

"Africans," he goes on, "occupy positions of importance in every colony visited. There are physicians, lawyers and ministers who have completed the requirements of European universities, and, while the number is small, it is sufficient to prove the capacity of the people.

"The clerical tasks of government, industry and commerce are very largely entrusted to young African men. The mechanical operations on railroads and in construction are more and more being taken over by African workmen. Every mission gives emphatic testimony to the value of the native teachers and ministers.

"Nor are the possibilities of the Africans to be judged only by those who have entered the ranks of civilization, whether in Africa, Europe or America. Their folk-lore, their handicraft, their native music, their forms of government, their linguistic powers, all are substantial evidences of civilization."

Evil influences originated with the white explorer and still persist, but Dr. Jones is convinced that the native has gained more than he lost through the white man's advent.

"Ignorance, injustice, unrest in Africa will always disturb the peace of mankind elsewhere," he continues. "The only cure for the so-called 'rising tide of color' and 'the revolt against civilization,' heralded abroad with such anxiety by some alarmists of the present time, is in the development of genuine and sincere cooperation of peoples of all races, based upon an education of the native masses and native leaders in the common essentials of life."

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Africa – 1922
Current.

# AN ALL-NEGRO STATE

Dallas Tex Herald 3/25/22

Proposals for the establishment of an all Negro state have been made ever since glimmerings began to appear in the consciousness of students of our nation to the effect that the existence of two races in one nation was provocative of friction.

Very few attempts at colonization of the American Negro have actually been made. The only one of these which in any way materialized was Liberia. It has always been found that the projects have been impossible of accomplishment. And the result is that to a great extent all parties concerned have about come to the conclusion that it is possible to live together peaceably and to their mutual well-being and definite efforts are being made toward securing the mutual operation necessary to it.

Yet the proposals continue. Only a few months ago a scheme was outlined for the establishment of a Negro state bordering on or in Mexico. It has not recently been heard of.

Now comes Senator McCallum of the Mississippi Senate who proposes that his state memorialize the President and Congress upon the purchase of Africa or a small portion of it for a Negro state.

His resolution is rich in "whereas" and he reasons in part thus:

"Whereas, Race dominion is as old as history and tradition; and,

Whereas, The question of race relationship has vexed the world since the bondage of the Israelites in Egypt, requiring the interposition of God Himself; and,

Whereas, All the wars that have cursed the world since the beginning of time have had their roots directly or indirectly deeply enmeshed in this relationship; and,

Whereas, As time has progressed and man has become more enlightened, the acuteness of this relationship has become more manifest; and,

Whereas, This great conflict has quickened throughout the world the spirit of race consciousness, as never before known; and,

Whereas, In that great conflict America, by reason of her detached position and by her measureless supplies of men, money and materials, and by reason of her high and noble purposes became the spiritual voice of the world and in that crucial hour, as if by God directed proclaimed in trumpet tones that echoed around the world the heaven-born doctrine of "the self-determination of nations" and as a result of this doctrine the spirit of race consciousness has not only been quickened in the hearts of men everywhere but our own ever-present race question has assumed an ominous and potentious aspect; and,

Whereas, The President of the United States in a recent public address recognized the race question as a national problem and that every government of the world was involved in some phase of the question; and,

Whereas, The race question as commonly understood in this country is the darkest shadow across the path of this republic; and,

Whereas, It is our most earnest desire to reach a just, fair, amicable and final settlement of this most vexed and perilous question; Therefore,

Be it Resolved, By the Senate of the state of Mississippi, the House of Representatives concurring, therein, that we do hereby most solemnly memorialize the congress of the United States of America to request the President to acquire by treaty, negotiation or ortherwise from our late war allies sufficient territory on the Continent of Africa to make a suitable, proper and final home for the American Negro, where under the tutelage of the American government he can develop for himself a great republic, to become in time a free and sovereign state and take its place at the council board of the nations of the world, and to use such part of our allied war debt as may be necessary in acquiring such territorial concessions, to the end that our country may become one in blood as it is in spirit, and that the dream of our forefathers may be realized in the final colonization of the American Negro on his native soil, and that the spirit of race consciousness now so manifest in the American Negro may be given an opportunity for development under the most advantageous circumstances.

Proposals such as this one are never productive of results. They are interesting only as they show the awakened consciousness of the South to the fact that methods more humane for the settlement of the problem of race must be had. Mississippi has always been famous among us for the cruelty and barbarity of its dominant race.

Only recently has it shown definite signs of an awakening generally to the fact that the whole problem is one of education, humanity and Christianity.

Continued consideration of proposals such as this one, though impracticable, may lead its whole people to a realization that cooperation and the desire for mutual progress and prosperity are of great value in improving the condition.

Back to Africa Movement

## Missippians Would Send Negroes Back to Africa

Commercial Appeal Memphis Tenn 2/25/22

JACKSON, Miss., Feb. 20.—The Mississippi Senate today by vote of 20 to 8 passed the McCullough resolution memorializing Congress and the president of the United States to take up with the allies of the world war the matter of securing for their possessions in Africa enough lands on which to colonize the American negro. Senator McCullough contends that this is the only practical way of settling the negro question. The resolution now goes to the House.

## BACK-TO-AFRICA BILL VOTED DOWN IN HOUSE

Commercial Appeal Memphis Tenn. 3/10/22

"Ole Miss" Appropriation Slash Is Retained.

RETRENCHMENT THE IDEA

**Forestry Conservation Measure Is Doomed to Defeat—Legislators Opposed to Taking Up Innovations That Will Cost Money Now.**

Special to The Commercial Appeal.

JACKSON, Miss., March 9.—One sensation after another followed today's session of the Legislature. The special committee to investigate the charges in the governor's insurance message met and received the governor's message in which the governor said he would appear. He later advised that it would be impossible for him to attend any meetings.

The House, early in the day, received the report of the judiciary committee favorably reporting the resolution to investigate the affairs of Commissioner T. M. Henry's office. The report was adopted, by a vote of nearly two to one. Speaker Conner will name the committee, probably tomorrow.

The Senate experienced a thrill today when Lieut.-Gov. Casteel entered the chamber, this being his first apparance since the session opened. The lieutenant governor was given an ovation and was invited to address the Senate but declined on account of weakness from his recent attack of illness. He will remain, however, until the session closes and take part in the proceedings.

The House this afternoon tendered Senator McCallum the privilege of the floor to discuss his resolution memorializing Congress to secure lands in Africa as part of war reparation claims for colonizing negroes, but in spite of his able presentation of the subject turned down the resolution.

# ALABAMA SOCIALISTS ADOPT PLATFORM

Commercial Appeal Memphis, Tenn

## One Plank Favors Sending Negroes to Africa.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 2.—At the adjourned meeting of the state and county convention of the "Social-Democrat League of Alabama," as the socialist part of this state is called, held at the United Temple Thursday night, with about eighty delegates present a platform was adopted by the convention and the state and county candidates for office completed.

**Nominations Named.** 9-3-22

The following nominations were made: R. D. Goss of Birmingham for lieutenant governor, E. L. Fesperman, secretary of state; Mrs. Agnes P. Hutchinson of Shelby County, state superintendent of education; Mrs. Emma P. Montgomery of Leeds and A. C. Gamble of Bessemer for the Jefferson County board of education.

The nomination of Arlie Barber for governor; J. P. Walker for sheriff of Jefferson County; Charles Knight for the state Senate and A. C. Fleming for the Legislature had previously been announced, together with others.

The following platform was adopted:

"We pledge to abolish profit, rent and interest, the germ of industrial strife, the cause of national and international conflict and war.

"We advocate for immediate relief of the epople the following:

"That no citizen shall have to pay a tax for the right to vote."

"The initiative, refereddum and resall for all public officials and all state laws. . . .

"For the relief of the farmer, we recommend that the Southern states put into operation a plan for marketing his products, which shall protect him from speculation.

"We advocate the abolishment of the laws of master and servant as applied to industry, and instead thereof, the enactment of a law which will give to the worker in industry a legal status of a co-partner.

**Far Paying War Debts.**

"We advocate the payment o fthe war debt owed the United States by England and France by the ceding to the United States of territory now owned by said governments in Africa, and believing that all men should have the opportunity for their race development, we recommend and advocate such state aid to the negro race as will enable them, under the protection of the United States, to establish in Africa a free and independent government of their own.

"All business essential to the immediate welfare of the people, such as railroads, express service, power plants, packing houses, cold storage plants, mines and factories, etc., which are national in scope, and which are now operated for the benefit o fthe few ,shall be operated for the use o fthe people and not for profit."

DIVISION OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 15

# ON WAY TO AFRICA

Photo by McDougall.

Members of the African Union Company who sailed Saturday, May 13, on the White Star liner Baltic for Secondee, Gold Coast, West Africa, where they will remain for two years and establish a chain of twenty-five stores. Reading left to right: J. L. Jones, secretary, Cincinnati, Ohio; Charles W. Chappelle, president, Pittsburg, Pa.; Mrs. William Curtis and William Curtis, Pittsburg, Pa.; J. W. Fox, Chicago, Ill., in charge of party; J. S. Cole, Pittsburg, Pa.; W. F. Adams, Pittsburg, Pa.; Mrs. G. L. Dixon and G. L. Dixon, Cincinnati, Ohio; J. F. Banks, Pittsburg, Pa.; J. W. Crow, Chicago. The African Union Company has no affiliation with so-called "Back to Africa" movements. Skilled mechanics, engineers, etc., are included in the party. The company is chartered and has been in existence for eight years.

Chicago Defender 5/20/22

BERKELEY CAL GAZETTE
AUGUST 17. 1922

## AFRICA FOR AFRICANS

Another movement of racial self-assertion, modest in beginning but ambitious in ultimate purpose, is headed by Dr. J. Albert Thorne, a full-blooded negro born in Barbados. He calls his movement the African Colonial Enterprise. He proposes to "repatriate the exiles" whose racial home is Africa, and to "civilize the natives" of that continent.

It is a big job, surely, and one in which nobody need grudge Dr. Thone any success he may win. Marcus Garvey has been proposing a similar plan, and seems to have got no farther than a hopeless maze of financial entanglement. With less promoting and more practicality, Dr. Thorne may do better. But at best, his pioneer 100 families of exiles will hardly make much impression on a continent almost as large as North and South America combined, containing uncounted tens of millions of negro savages and with nearly all of its rich and accessible territory already in possession of the whites.

Can the negro succeed in Africa, in competition with the white man, any better than he can in America? His experience in Liberia, the first "back to Africa" experiment, is not reassuring. After half a century of opportunity, Liberia recently was saved from bankruptcy by a loan of $5,000,000 from the United States goverenment.

# T KILLED
# AFTER PEPPERY DISCUSSION; BACK IN FINANCE COMMITTEE

12/1/22 — Pittsburgh American, Pa

## Bill is Recommitted to Die in Committee —Reed of Missouri and Harrison of Georgia Sling Mud at Liberians and American Negroes

WASHINGTON, Dec.—The Liberian Loan Bill has been killed by the United States Senate by a vote of 42 to 33. The trick was done by Senator Simmon's motion to recommit the bill to the Senate Finance Committee. This committee now gets the bill back without instructions or recommendations. It is not expected that the measure will come on the floor of the Senate again during the present Congress.

Opposition to the bill came principally from the Democratic side although Senator Borah was opposed to passage of the resolution authorizing the loan. The loan was attacked by Senator Reed of Missouri with his characteristic vituperation. Reed came on the floor with an encyclopedia and began to read about Liberia. He said that only one in five hundred in Liberia is civilized and that cannibalism is practiced within forty miles of the coast. He also said that security for the loan would probably be the heads of missionaries sent over to civilize the natives.

Vieing with the Senator for honors in venemous remarks was Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi. Harrison said earlier in the debate that there were five Negro politicians that would receive about $650,000 in fees from the Liberian government should the loan be made. He said that these men had been very conspicuous around the capitol buttonholing senators and asking them to support the loan. Harrison said that the persons who were to receive the commission were:

"William H. Lewis of Boston, a very prominent Republican member of the colored race, formerly an assistant to the Attorney General.

"Emmett J. Scott, Secretary and Treasurer of Howard University, Washington, D. C., said to have been one of the lieutenants for the manager of Leonard Wood when he was a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination.

"James A. Cobb of Washington, prominent colored attorney, once assistant to the District Attorney.

"The Rev. Ernest Lyon of Baltimore, formerly Minister to Liberia.

"William J. Houston of Washington recently placed on the P[illegible]

Harrison then introduced an amendment forbidding the payment of any fees. At the conclusion of the attack of the Mississippi senator Senator Curtis, of Kansas, told the senate that the idea of commission graft originated solely in the mind and imagination of Senator Harrison.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 15

Africa—1922.
Current.

Back to Africa Movement.

DETROIT
AUGUST 7, 1922

## ANOTHER AFRICAN REPATRIATION SCHEME.

The latest plan to move Negroes from the western world back to their old home in Africa originates with a certain Dr. J. Albert Thorne, an educated Barbadian Negro, who has secured a concession in Nyasaland on the Zambesi river, where, according to his version, small farms will virtually be given to Negro settlers. He is in New York promoting his scheme and, like his many predecessors, he is enthusiastic.

There is something attractive in the plan to repatriate Negroes in Africa. The method by which their ancestors were expatriated and scattered over half the world was so outrageous that the idea of seeing them safely back has an appearance of poetic justice, but hard experience indicates that New World Negroes have no reason to look toward Africa as a promised land. Liberia certainly does not encourage that hope and the view that the Liberian experiment has failed because it was badly managed does not carry far. If the best class of American Negroes had taken much interest in Liberia they could have made something of it. The fact is they never have, and those American Negroes who have tried Africa have made the unpleasant discovery that centuries of racial life in this country have unfitted them for African conditions. The health of the American Negro in Africa is no better than the health of a white man. He has no immunity like that of the African races which have remained constantly in the land of their origin.

It is no wonder, therefore, that Negroes living in the United States prefer to take their chances in a land where they know that in spite of discrimination they can make their way, enjoy the benefits of civilization an watch the assured progress of their race toward better things.

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH REEL 15